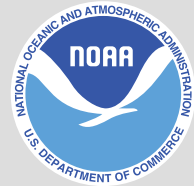


Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Draft Management Plan Overview

Provided to the
Sanctuary Advisory Council
May 15, 2006



Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Agenda

Overview Presentation

- Management Plan Review Process
- Proposed Future Sanctuary Actions / Draft Management Plan
- Proposed Revised Sanctuary Regulations / Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- Public Review and Comment Opportunities
- What Happens Next?



The New Draft Management Plan



What it is

- A road map for sanctuary management
- Revised sanctuary regulations

What it isn't

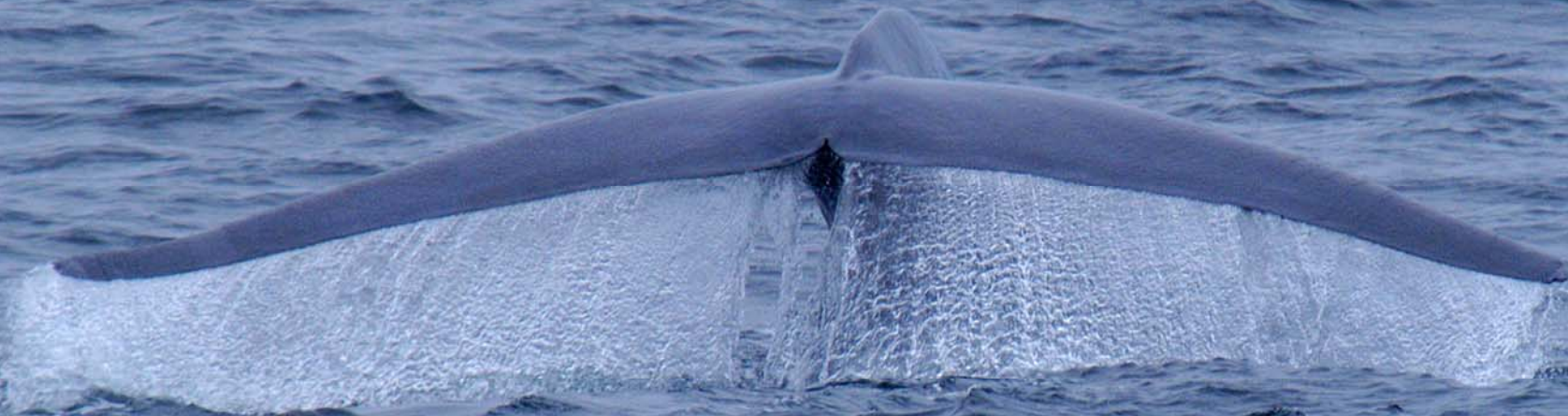
- Marine Reserves Designation
- Boundary Expansion



Why are we here?

Photo Credit: Cary Bucklin
CINMS Image Library

The Channel Islands



The Channel Islands



Photo: Robert V. Schwemmer

The Channel Islands



Photo: Sarah MacWilliams

The Channel Islands



The Channel Islands



The Channel Islands



Photo: Sarah MacWilliams

The Channel Islands



Photo: Sarah MacWilliams

The Channel Islands



Photo: Robert V. Schwemmer

The Channel Islands



Photo: Sarah MacWilliams



National Marine Sanctuaries



“Areas of the marine environment with special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archaeological, or esthetic qualities...” National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)

- Raising public awareness and understanding through education and outreach.
- Improving understanding through research (e.g., historical, conservation science, social science).
- Helping coastal economies by promoting and protecting healthy resources.
- Facilitating public use compatible with resource protection.



Public Input During Management Plan Review



= Public Input

Sanctuary staff issue identification/internal review
1999



Public Scoping Meetings
1999



Issue Workshops and Meetings
2000



Development & Revision of Draft Management Plan and DEIS
w/ Advisory Council input and review
2000-2003



Release Draft Management Plan and DEIS
2006



WHERE WE ARE TODAY
SAC Overview/Kickoff Comment Period
2006



Complete Final Management Plan and FEIS
2006



The Two-Volume Set



Volume I: The Draft Management Plan

- Focuses on 10 Action Plans



Volume II: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

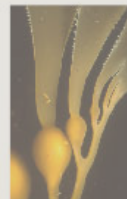
- Focuses on 3 alternative sets of sanctuary regulations



Volume I: The Draft Management Plan



Channel Islands
National Marine Sanctuary



Draft Management Plan/
Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Volume I of II:
Draft Management Plan



May 2006

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service
National Marine Sanctuary Program



What is the Management Plan?



Photo: Robert V. Schwemmer

- 5-year plan to guide sanctuary management
- Contains sanctuary's action plans, as well as sanctuary regulations
- Sets priorities for program areas:
 - research & monitoring
 - education & outreach
 - resource protection
 - maritime heritage
- Establishes administrative framework
- Identifies relationships with other regional authorities and partnerships to protect sanctuary resources
- Presents timelines and performance measures



Action Plans identify

- Programs, projects and regulations the sanctuary uses to address identified resource issues
- Sanctuary objectives
- Status of planned activities
- Sanctuary staff and partners involved in implementing planned activities
- Estimated costs of implementing planned activities
- How the sanctuary will evaluate its performance over time.



Draft Management Plan: Action Plans



1. Public Awareness & Understanding
2. Conservation Science
3. Boundary Evaluation
4. Marine Zoning
5. Water Quality
6. Emergency Response and Enforcement
7. Maritime Heritage Resources
8. Emerging Issues
9. Operations
10. Evaluation



Photo: Robert V. Schwemmer

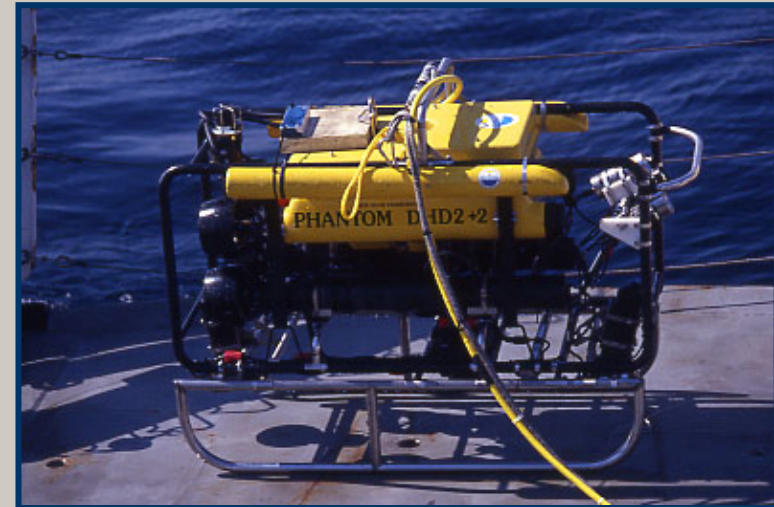
Appendix A1: Action Plan Summary Table

STATUS	PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION	STATUS	FUNDING	PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION	IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL		
					LEVEL FUNDING (= FY05 BUDGET)	10% ANNUAL FUNDING INCREASE	20% PER YEAR FUNDING INCREASE
◇ Existing w/ no significant modification ◆ Existing w/ significant modification ◆ New (since 2002) or future; not yet implemented	○ None (may include SAC input) ◎ Significant reliance on partners ● Not possible w/o partners						
FUNDING □ Funding is internal only (CINMS & NMSP) ■ Internal and external sources provide funding ■ Major funding source is external	IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL (BASED ON FUNDING SCENARIO) H High level of implementation M Medium level of implementation L Low level of implementation						
Awareness and Understanding Action Plan							
Strategy AU.1 - Education Program Development							
(1) Develop teacher workshops	◇	□	◎	H	H	H	
(2) Continue to develop education programs on water quality	◆	■	●	M	M	H	
(3) Providing content for GIS "Mapping an Ocean Sanctuary" education materials	◇	□	○	M	M	M	
(4) Continue support of Oceans to Classrooms marine science series	◇	■	◎	H	H	H	
(5) Conduct student field monitoring	◆	■	◎	M	M	M	
(6) Partner with Waves on Wheels	◇	■	◎	L	L	L	
(7) Participate in NOAA/NMSP National Initiative strategies	◆	■	◎	M	M	H	
Strategy AU.2 - Community Involvement/Volunteer & Intern Program Development							
(1) Presenting at regional and national workshops and conferences	◇	□	◎	M	M	M	
(2) Continue Adult Education Program at SBCC & Ventura College Community Services	◆	□	◎	M	M	M	
(3) Develop Interagency Interpretive Program with CINP	◆	■	◎	H	H	H	
(4) Maintain the Great Annual Fish Count Program	◇	■	●	M	M	M	
(5) Maintain the CINMS Internship Program	◇	□	◎	H	H	H	
Strategy AU.3 - Team OCEAN							
(1) Maintain the Channel Islands Naturalist Corps	◆	■	◎	H	H	H	
(2) Develop Sanctuary Marine Watch Volunteer Program	◆	□	◎	L	M	M	



Example Strategies

1. Public Awareness and Understanding
 - **Multicultural Education**
 - **Visitor Center Support/Development**
 - **Team Ocean / Channel Islands Naturalist Corps**
2. Conservation Science
 - **Collaborative Marine Research Project**
 - **Marine Reserves Monitoring**
3. Boundary Evaluation
 - **(Separate process)**
4. Marine Zoning / Reserves
 - **(Separate process)**





Draft Management Plan: Action Plans



Example Strategies continued

5. Water Quality

- Offshore Water Quality Monitoring
- Water Quality Protection Planning

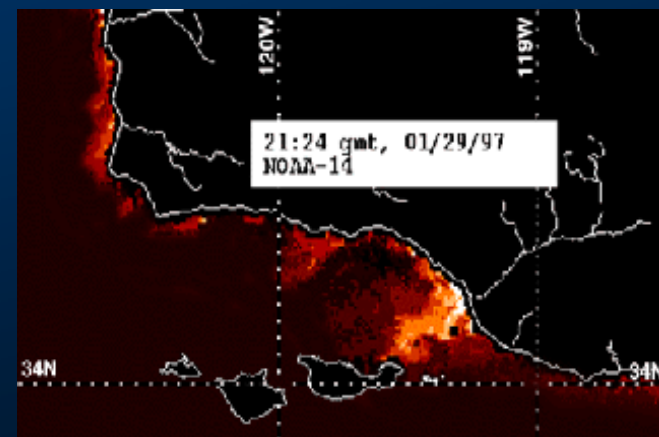
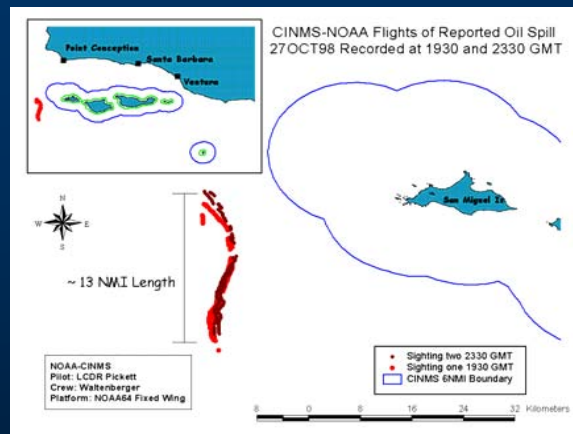


6. Emergency Response & Enforcement

- Improving Emergency Response Planning & Implementation
- Expanding Enforcement Efforts



Photo: South Coast Watershed Resource Center
<http://www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/wrc/gallery.html>





Example Strategies continued

7. Maritime Heritage Resources

- **MHR Protection Outreach Effort**
- **Promoting Public Education about Chumash Native American Culture**



8. Emerging Issues

- **Identifying & Assessing Emerging Issues**
- **Responding to Identified Issues**

9. Operations

- **Sanctuary Advisory Council Operations**
- **Office Space Expansion**

10. Evaluation

- **Measuring Sanctuary Performance Over Time**





Volume II: The Draft EIS (Regulations)



Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary



Draft Management Plan/ Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Volume II of II:
Draft Environmental Impact Statement



May 2006

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service
National Marine Sanctuary Program



Primary Components of the Environmental Impact Statement

- 1. Introduction: Purpose of and Need for Action**
- 2. Description of Three Alternatives**
 - Status Quo, Proposed Action, Alternative 1
- 3. Description of the Affected Environment**
- 4. Environmental Consequences of Alternatives**
- 5. Existing Applicable Federal and State Regulations**
- 6. Key Appendices**
 - Public Scoping Process
 - National Marine Sanctuaries Act
 - Biological and cultural resources of the Study Area
 - Proposed Rule
 - NMSA findings and determinations



A note about the sanctuary Designation Document

- What is it?
 - describes the sanctuary's geographic area
 - describes the characteristics of the area that give it value
 - Provides the sanctuary's scope of authority (i.e., explains which activities are subject to sanctuary regulation)
- Some changes to the Designation Document would be needed if certain proposed regulations are adopted (marked with ★ in upcoming slides)
- This Draft EIS does not propose Designation Document changes that would restrict fishing



Rationale for Proposed Regulatory Changes

Changes to existing regulations (established in 1980):

- need clarification and updated language
- seeking better inter-sanctuary consistency, especially within California

Possible new regulations:

- to address priority resource issues
- to address new/emerging threats
- to promote greater inter-sanctuary consistency where appropriate
- based on a proactive, risk reduction approach



Draft EIS (Regulations)



PROTECTING
YOUR CHANNEL
ISLANDS



Status Quo Alternative Regulates

- Oil and gas exploration and production
- Discharging or depositing materials
- Alteration of the seabed
- Operation of vessels carrying cargo and servicing offshore installations within 1 NM of the Islands
- Disturbing seabirds or marine mammals by flying aircraft at less than 1000 feet within 1 NM of the Islands
- Removing or damaging historical or cultural resources





Summary of Regulation Modifications Included in Proposed Action and Alternative 1

Note: changes found only in Alternative 1 are in green

- **Oil & Gas Development**

- No substantive changes proposed; outdated language corrections

- ★ **Discharge and Deposit**

- clarifies that the existing exception (allowance) for biodegradable effluent from marine sanitation devices (MSDs) applies only to Type I or Type II MSDs
- proposes prohibition on dumping food waste (which is already banned from 0-3 nm)
- proposes prohibition on chumming, except for lawful fishing practices
- proposes prohibition on discharges that enter from outside the Sanctuary and injure resources/qualities
- **proposes prohibition on discharge of biodegradable effluents from vessels of 300 gross registered tons or more**

- ★ **Alteration of the Seafloor (“Submerged Lands”)**

- proposes extending prohibition on disturbance from 0-2 nm to 0-6nm boundary
- expanded exemption for all lawful fishing; anchoring exemption remains

★ Requires changing sanctuary authority in designation document.



Summary of Regulation Modifications Included in Proposed Action and Alternative 1 continued

Note: changes found only in Alternative 1 are in green

- **Large Vessel Approach to within 1nm of Islands**
 - proposes prohibition for vessels larger than 300 gross registered tons
 - proposes prohibition for vessels larger than 150 gross registered tons
- **Disturbing Seabirds or Marine Mammals by Low Flying Aircraft (under 1000 feet within 1 nm of islands)**
 - No substantive changes proposed
- ★ **Protection of Cultural and Historic Resources**
 - proposes essentially unchanged level of protection
 - proposes slight rewording to close some disturbance loopholes

★ Requires changing sanctuary authority in designation document.



Summary of Regulation Modifications Included in Proposed Action and Alternative 1 continued

Note: changes found only in Alternative 1 are in green

- **Department of Defense Activities**

- proposes updated language and retains exemptions for military training and testing activities
- provides that 12 of the proposed prohibitions do not apply to military activities (described in the DEIS section on “Department of Defense Activities”) carried out as of the effective date of the new and revised regulations
- proposes consultation requirement changes to reflect current NMSA requirements

- **Sanctuary Permitting**

- proposes updated language, improved and clarified issuance criteria

★ Requires changing sanctuary authority in designation document.



Summary of New Regulations Included in Proposed Action and Alternative 1

Note: new regulations found only in Alternative 1 are in green

- ★ **Protection of Marine Mammals, Seabirds, Sea Turtles**
 - considers prohibitions on take and possession
 - not applicable to otherwise authorized actions (e.g., lawful fisheries) pursuant to Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act
 - same regulation in place at several other national marine sanctuaries
- ★ **Introduced Species**
 - proposes prohibition on release
- **Motorized Personal Watercraft**
 - proposes prohibition within the area already banned by the National Park Service: The Channel Islands National Park boundary, extending 1 nm from Islands)
- ★ **Tampering with Sanctuary Signs**
 - proposes prohibition

★ Requires changing sanctuary authority in designation document.



Summary of New Regulations Included in Proposed Action and Alternative 1 continued

Note: new regulations found only in Alternative 1 are in green

- ★ **Abandoning Material and Matter on or in Submerged Lands**
 - proposes prohibition on abandoning material and matter
- ★ **Minerals Mining**
 - proposes prohibition
 - this activity not occurring or proposed at this time
- ★ **Lightering** (at-sea transfer of petroleum-based products, materials, or other matter from vessel to vessel)
 - considers prohibition on lightering in the sanctuary

★ Requires changing sanctuary authority in designation document.



Environmental Consequences of Alternatives

- no significant adverse impacts to current use
- finding of net benefit to environment



Shane Anderson

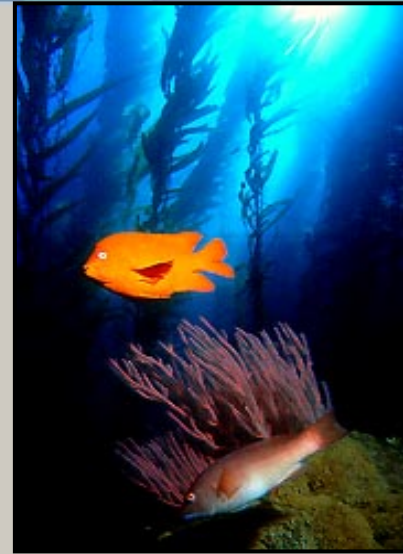




What Happens Next?



- **Two Public Hearings**
 - June 27 in Ventura
 - June 29 in Santa Barbara
- **Public Comments Received Until July 21st, 2006**
- **NOAA, NMSP, and CINMS consider all comments, make decision on final set of regulations, and develop Final Management Plan and Final EIS, including formal response to comments (estimated to be completed in late 2006 or early 2007)**
- **Implementation of FMP and enforcement of new set of regulations (after 45 days of continuous session of Congress)**
- **At future date (late 2007 at the earliest) NMSP to initiate supplemental public process to consider sanctuary boundary expansion**





To get a copy of the Draft Management Plan

- Go to www.channelislands.noaa.gov
- Email mp.request@noaa.gov
- Via Phone: 805.884.1464
- Visit a sanctuary office
(located in Santa Barbara and Channel Islands harbors)
- Visit the Ventura County or Santa Barbara public library

**Comments must be
received (post marked) by
July 21st, 2006**

How you can comment

- Attend a public hearing (6:15 to 9:00 pm):
 - **Tuesday, June 27th, Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Ventura**
 - **Thursday, June 29th, Warren Hall, Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara**
- Via email: cinms.mgtplan@noaa.gov
- Via fax: 805.568.1582
- Via mail: CINMS, 113 Harbor Way, Suite 150, Santa Barbara, CA 93109
- Voice your concerns to your Sanctuary Advisory Council Representatives, attend the July 21st Advisory Council meeting or a Working Group meeting

For more information

- Go to www.channelislands.noaa.gov
- Call 805.884.1464